

# Fax Cover Sheet

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Date: January 25, 2002

To: Renata Hesse

Company: Department of Justice

Fax: (202) 616-9937

From: Christopher J. Raser

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

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Number of pages including this one: \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

Regarding, Public  
Comment on  
Microsoft Proposed  
Final Settlement.

From:  
805 Paseo Camarillo, #520  
Camarillo, CA  
93010  
January 24, 2002

To:  
Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney  
Suite 1200, Antitrust Division, Department of Justice, 601 D Street NW  
Washington, DC  
20530

Re: Microsoft Antitrust Settlement

Dear Mrs. Hesse,

I am writing to express my concern over the proposed settlement terms of the current antitrust case against Microsoft. The terms are inadequate as a remedy for the antitrust violations for which Microsoft has been found guilty, and may in fact *strengthen* Microsoft's grip on the software industry.

To be effective, the settlement must promote interoperability between Microsoft software and that of other makers. At a minimum, the following provisions are required:

1. The specifications of all Microsoft document formats must be made public, so that documents created in Microsoft applications can be read by software from other makers, and vice versa. This is in addition to the publication of the Windows API, which is already included in the proposed settlement.
2. The specification of all Microsoft network protocols must also be made public, so that network software/hardware from other makers can interoperate with that from Microsoft.

These measures will sharply reduce Microsoft's control over the largest barriers to entry to the software marketplace, without damaging Microsoft's ability to produce innovative software. A level playing field in the software industry is at the heart of the national interest, and the effects of this settlement on the software industry—and on businesses in general—will be felt for many years to come. Therefore, I stress that a correct remedy to this issue is far more important than a speedy conclusion to this case, and respectfully urge the court to add provisions similar to those outlined above to the final settlement.

Respectfully,



Christopher Raser  
Web Developer